

# PAPERS READ

BEFORE THE

## LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3, 1915.

---

*"History herself, as seen in her own workshop."*

---

A REVOLUTIONARY PATRIOT AND HIS WORTHY  
GRANDSON.

REPORT OF ANNUAL OUTING OF THE SOCIETY.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

---

VOL. XIX. NO. 7.

PRICE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER COPY.

---

LANCASTER, PA.

1915.



# PAPERS READ

BEFORE THE

## LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3, 1915.

---

*"History herself, as seen in her own workshop."*

---

A REVOLUTIONARY PATRIOT AND HIS WORTHY  
GRANDSON.

REPORT OF ANNUAL OUTING OF THE SOCIETY.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

---

VOL. XIX. NO. 7.

PRICE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER COPY.

---

LANCASTER, PA.

1915.



A Revolutionary Patriot and His Worthy Grandson. - 189

BY MRS. JAMES D. LANDIS.

Report of Annual Outing of the Society. - - - - - 200

Minutes of the September Meeting. - - - - - 208



# A REVOLUTIONARY PATRIOT AND HIS WORTHY GRANDSON.

---

**I**F any apology be necessary for the raison d'être of this sketch let its justification be a natural desire on the part of the writer to preserve in comprehensive form a few facts in the lives of two ancestors; one, a Revolutionary patriot and public official, the other, a respected citizen and servant of the people.

The first authentic information we have of John Miller is found on a tombstone in the graveyard of Trinity Lutheran Church of Lancaster, the inscription thereon being as follows:

Ruhen die Geborne,  
von  
Johannes Mueller,  
Gebuden 16 Sept., 1739,  
Verschlicht in jahr Nov., 1764.  
um  
Margaret Ganter,  
gesterben, 12 Aug., 1810.

The date of John Miller's coming to Lancaster is not known, but it was probably before or about the year 1764, for in the marriage records of Trinity Lutheran Church under date of November 6, 1764, we find this record: John Miller, a gunmaker of Tulpehockin, and Margaret Ganter, daughter of John Peter Ganter and his wife, Susanna Reigart.

The said Susanna Reigart was a daughter of Ulrich Reigart the founder of the Fountain Inn Hotel,\* and

---

\*The Fountain Inn, on South Queen street, was established by Ulrich

a sister of Adam Reigart, Sr., who was proprietor of the Grape Hotel on North Queen street (the headquarters of the Whigs during the Revolution), and who acted as Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment under Colonel George Ross during the Revolutionary War.

For some years John Miller carried on the business of gun making in Lancaster, at least until the year 1776, in proof of which we find an entry in the account book of Captain John Hubley, who was Commissioner of Purchase in that year. The entry is as follows: Paid John Miller, Jan. 27, 1776, for work done for riflemen, 8s. 1d. (Papers and proceedings of the Lancaster County Historical Society, Vol. 6, No. 1, page 15.)

In the following year, 1777, we find him serving as a member of the Committee of Safety and Protection in Lancaster, with Jasper Yeates, Michael Musser, George Moore, Adam Reigart, William Bowman and William Atlee, Chairman, the meeting being held at the house of Mr. Baker, June 28, 1777. (Papers and Proceedings of the Lancaster County Historical Society, Vol. V, No. 1, page 21.)

He next served as Commissioner of Purchase of the Continental Army, for the County of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, under appointment of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, March 14, 1781. (Colonial Records, Vol. XII, page 660.) An old account book kept by him at this time

---

Reigart, in 1758, and remained in the Reigart family until 1811. While the Lancaster County Court House was building, Court was held in the Fountain Inn, from 1781 to 1784. The Supreme Court of the State sat at the Inn in 1785. In 1800 a large room in it was occupied by Lodge 43, F. and A. M., as a meeting place, while their hall was being constructed over the city market by Gottlieb Sener, carpenter and joiner. (The Lancaster Intelligencer Centennial Number.)



is now in possession of the Lancaster County Historical Society, and the numerous entries are signed, mostly in German, by many well-known men of Lancaster Borough who furnished John Miller with provisions for the men and the horses of the army. This book was found in the house of a descendant, on the site of which John Miller once lived—the old Zimmerman-Russel house on the east side of North Queen street, between Chestnut and Orange streets, and which was in possession of his descendants for more than one hundred years. (S. M. Sener's "Revolutionary Days" in Papers and Proceedings of the Lancaster County Historical Society, Vol. VI, No. 1, page 22.)

At the close of the Revolutionary War John Miller became the proprietor and "Mine Host" of the General Wayne Hotel on the west side of North Queen street, between King and Orange streets. This hostelry was evidently named for the then popular hero, "Mad Anthony" Wayne of the Revolution. How long he dispensed hospitality is not known, but in 1785 he became a public officer and served in an official capacity for a period of a quarter of a century.

He was High Sheriff of Lancaster County in the years 1785, 1786, and 1787. (Mombert's History of Lancaster County, page 440.)

He was a member of the Assembly of Pennsylvania from Lancaster county in 1789. (Rupp's History of Lancaster County, page 435.)

In the years 1794 and 1795 he served as a member of the State Senate which held its sessions in Philadelphia, then the Capital of Pennsylvania. (Harris' History of Lancaster County, page 395, corrected on page 639.) Nathaniel Ellmaker was a member of the

Senate at the same time, and recently there came under the notice of the writer, Mr. Ellmaker's printed copy of the proceedings of the Senate, which showed that in almost every instance in which a vote was taken the two members from Lancaster County voted alike.

A few years later, in 1799, he served in the capacity of Chief Burgess of Lancaster borough, and in 1805 he was again made burgess. (History of Lodge 43, F. and A. M., by Geo. R. Welchans, M. D.).

In common with the prominent men of his day, our subject was actively interested in a local fire company. The one to which he gave his attention was the "Sun," long time the rival of the "Union." In the "History of the Union Fire Company" by Alfred Sanderson we find this record: 27th of December, 1788, at a meeting of the Union Fire Company, John Miller and Christian App, members of the Sun Fire Company, attended as a deputation from their company respecting the mode to be pursued in procuring another engine for the use of the borough. In confirmation of the purchase of this engine, there is a record in the Auditor's report of £120 paid to John Miller and others, and of £4 10s, to Henry Pinkerton for hauling the machine from Philadelphia.

In accordance with an act of the State Legislature, March 9, 1797, authorizing public lotteries, a number of our enterprising burghers met and appointed a board of commissioners to raise by lottery a sum not to exceed \$20,000 for the paving of the streets of the borough of Lancaster. The following committee, composed of John Hubley, Adam Reigart, Jr., John Miller, Abraham Witmer, Edward Hand, Philip Diffenderffer, Paul Zant-zinger, Matthias Slough, Jacob Krug,

George Musser, John Huber, James Crawford and Jacob Graeff, was appointed, and at a meeting held at the house of Peter Diller on January 26, 1802, John Miller and Abraham Witmer, builder of Witmer's Bridge, were appointed a committee to wait on his Excellency, Thomas McKean, Governor of Pennsylvania, for his approbation. The scheme was approved, the Governor's signature obtained, and the paving accomplished. (F. R. Diefenderffer on "The Paving of East King street by Lottery," in papers and proceedings of the Lancaster County Historical Society, Vol IV, No. 1, page 12).

That John Miller was socially inclined is shown by the fact that he was made a Mason in Lodge 43, F. and A. M., September 29, 1794. He was elected Junior Warden in 1796, and in June, 1797, was elected Worshipful Master. He withdrew from the lodge March 24, 1798. (History of Lodge 43, F. and A. M.), He died in his seventy-first year, survived by his wife, two sons, and four daughters. In his will, made on March 17, 1809, one year before his death, he refers to himself as John Miller, Gunsmith, but whether he was then actively engaged in the manufacture of guns is not known. His estate, which was of considerable extent, was given to his wife and children. He was the owner of four slaves, two of which, "a Negroe wench Phillis and Negroe Boy Richard," were given to his wife, and two others, "a Negroe Boy Michael and Negroe Girl Jul," were to be disposed of as his executors thought proper. The following extract was taken from the Lancaster Journal of Saturday, August 18, 1810: Died in this Borough on Sunday last, aged 71 years, John Miller, Esq. His worth was

acknowledged by all who knew him, and his fellow citizens have given testimony of their friendship by repeatedly electing him Sheriff of the county, and one of its representatives of the Legislature.

In the Moravian Cemetery, on Prince street, the following inscription on a large, flat, white stone attests the burial place of his wife:

Margaret Miller, born Ganter.

Born Feb. 8, 1743.

Died March 1, 1819.

Aged 76 years, 21 days.

The children of John and Margaret Ganter Miller were as follows: I. Susanna, who married on August 30, 1786, Philip Eberman, son of John Eberman; II. Anna Maria, born November 4, 1767, and died May 24, 1845; III. Elizabeth, born December 15, 1769, and who, on March 7, 1799, married first, Michael Weidler, born May 20, 1771, died December 31, 1807, and secondly, John Hambright, whom she married January 4, 1810; IV. John, born January 5, 1772; V. George, born July 20, 1780; VI. Catharine, born May, 1783, and died March 22, 1817. In October, 1801, she married Henry Hibschan (born October 11, 1774, died May 24, 1859), a son of Major Wendell Hibschan of the Revolutionary War.

Anna Maria, the second daughter of John Miller, married on August 10, 1786, Philip Schaeffer, son of Balthazar Schaeffer (born June, 1716, died December 19, 1781) and Margaret, his wife (born October, 1726, died July 19, 1798.)

Philip Schaeffer was born in Lancaster, October 20, 1766. He was a merchant and manufacturer as may be seen by the following advertisements in the Intelligencer Centennial Number of 1794 to 1894:

June 3, 1795, Philip Schaeffer, at the sign of the Mill-Saw, in Queen Street, North of the Court House, has for sale (next door to where Sheriff Miller used to live) a general assortment of Iron mongery, Cutlery, Saddlery, Brass-ware, Painters-Colours, and Window Glass of all sizes. N. B. Said Schaeffer carries on his Nail Manufactory as usual.

June 24, 1797, Schaeffer and Badecker inform their friends and the public that they have erected a Chocolate Manufactory at the house of Philip Schaeffer (Iron monger) in Queen street, where they carry on the said business in a regular and extensive manner. They flatter themselves that the quality of their Chocolate will not be exceeded by any in the United States, and they offer the same at wholesale and retail.

Whether these alluring advertisements failed to catch the trade of the friends and public or whether a larger city offered greater inducements in the way of business is not known, but a few years later, in 1799, Mr. Schaeffer removed to Baltimore, Maryland, where he died of yellow fever on September 18, 1800. According to the records of the First Reformed Church of Lancaster, which church the family attended, a memorial service was held for him in that church in October of the same year. The widow and her family of two sons and three daughters returned to Lancaster, and the second son, Emanuel, then a lad of seven years, became a member of the household of his grandfather, John Miller. The elder son, John, after some years moved to Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Of the daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret Barbara married, respectively, Adam and Michael Keller, sons of Adam Keller, an ensign in the Revolutionary War. The other daughter, Anna Maria, married John Zimmerman, afterwards Mayor of Lancaster.

---

EMANUEL SCHAEFFER, the youngest son of Philip Schaeffer and Anna Maria Miller Schaeffer,

was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, February 27, 1793. He received a common school education and at the age of fifteen years was apprenticed to learn saddlery, trunk and harness making. After his apprenticeship he worked at his trade as journeyman until he had accumulated about \$100, when he commenced business on his own account in this city. Untiring efforts and strict attention to business brought him the success which he well merited. His manufactory, a three-story brick building, was at one time in the northeast angle of Centre Square, on which site the Western Union Telegraph Office is now located, and which for many years belonged to his grandfather, John Miller. Previous to that the factory was on East Orange street where the Brinkman Hall now stands, and adjoined his own home, all the property from Christian street to North Queen street, and two buildings around the corner on North Queen street belonging to him, as did also the three buildings on the opposite side of Orange street beginning at Christian street.\*\*

In addition to his own business Mr. Schaeffer found time to serve the city. For thirteen years he was President of City Councils and held that office during the mayoralty of John Matthiot in 1832 when the successful effort was made to have the Pennsylvania Railroad pass through our city. (W. U. Hensel in Papers and Proceedings of the Lancaster County Historical Society, Vol. XI, No. 3, page 102.)

---

\*\*The building at the corner of North Queen and Orange streets was at one time rented from Mr. Schaeffer and occupied by Dr. Thomas W. Evans, the dentist, who afterwards became famous in Paris as court dentist, and who was of assistance to the Empress Eugenie in her flight from Paris during the Franco-Prussian War.

He was a Director of the School Board of Lancaster under the Lancasterian system of 1822, which followed the "Pauper School" system of 1809, and immediately preceded the public school system of 1838. (*Intelligencer Centennial number.*)

He served as Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Lancaster county for nine years, from September 8, 1842, to the first Monday in December, 1851. His first appointment was made by Governor David R. Porter for five years, at the expiration of which term he was reappointed by Governor Francis R. Shunk on January 25, 1848, and he continued to hold the office until the amended Constitution took effect, by which it was made elective by the people. (*Mombert's History of Lancaster County*, page 429).

According to an old pamphlet of 1835 he was a trustee of the Lancaster Savings Institution, with Dr. John L. Atlee, John F. Long, Jacob Demuth, John Brown and David Longenecker as his associates. At this time Judge Samuel Dale was President and Christopher Hager, secretary and treasurer. In 1841 he was elected president of the institution, which position he held for many years. When the cashier of the bank misappropriated thousands of dollars of the bank's funds Mr. Schaeffer and the late Thomas Ellmaker, one of the bank's directors (according to a statement made by the latter to the writer) contributed each the sum of \$6,000 from his own private fortune to replace in part the stolen funds. This was before the day of bank examiners, and when the security of the bank was, in a great measure, dependent on the honesty of its clerks.

According to the official returns of the election in Lancaster county Oc-

tober 10, 1848, published in the Lancaster Examiner and Herald, Judge Schaeffer was an unsuccessful candidate on the Democratic (Locofoco) ticket for Congress against Thaddeus Stevens. He, however, defeated Mr. Stevens in this city by a vote of 963 to 862, but was beaten in the county, which was then, as now, largely Republican.

He was elected a trustee of the Lancaster Cemetery Association February 3, 1853, and President of the board of trustees on February 7, 1856. He remained a member of the board until his death, a period of eleven years. His death is recorded in the minutes of the December meeting of 1864.

Like his grandfather, John Miller, he was a Mason, being a member of Lodge 43, F. and A. M. He was an ardent supporter of the temperance cause, a man of the strictest honor and integrity, and his whole life was marked by a close adherence to religious duties. He died November 13, 1864, while attending a church conference at Newburg, Cumberland county, Pa.

Mr. Schaeffer was married three times. His first wife was Mary Metzger, a daughter of Philip and Margaret Brunner Metzger. She was born on February 13, 1794, and died February 1, 1826. She left one son, Edwin Miller Schaeffer. The second wife was Elizabeth Metzger, a sister of his first wife. She was born September 13, 1803, and died November 6, 1858. The children of this marriage were as follows: Mary Elizabeth, who married John Herr; Margaret Louisa, who married Dr. John Levergood; Emanuel Washington, who died unmarried; Emeline Rebecca, who married Henry Brady McNeal.

The third wife of Judge Schaeffer,



whom he married late in life, was a widow, Mrs. Eliza Winebrenner, who died in Wichita, Kan., March, 1890.

It is to be hoped that the writing of this article may induce other members of the Historical Society to record in the pages of its journal the deeds of their Revolutionary ancestors, for, according to Macaulay, people who will take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors, will never accomplish anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants.

# REPORT OF ANNUAL OUTING OF THE SOCIETY.

Two hundred members and friends of the Lancaster County Historical Society attended the outing of the organization on June 26. This is always a delightful annual event for the local historians; but this year the occasion was fraught with unusual significance in that it was held at Windsor Forges, near Churchtown—celebrated for both its past and its present, in that it was years ago the seat of the famous iron-masters of that section and is to-day the beautiful country home of Miss Blanche Nevin, the prominent sculptress, and descendant of theirs, and who is also a member of the society she entertained.

## A Charming Hostess.

Miss Nevin proved a charming hostess and made her guests feel at their ease by her gracious manner and the hospitality which seemed to permeate her home. All through the morning hours the visitors arrived. Many traveled by trolley from Lancaster to Blue Ball, and were there met by auto trucks cushioned comfortably for passengers. Others came by automobile the entire distance from their homes, so that by afternoon more than a score of touring cars were parked about the premises.

## The Receiving Party.

Miss Daisy E. B. Grubb, who will entertain the Historical Society at her

home next year; Mrs. L. Heber Smith and Miss Mary G. Smith, of Joanna Furnace, in Chester county, and Mr. and Mrs. William Potts, of Valley Forge, with Mrs. Rutter, of Pine Forge, and Mrs. Brooks, of Birdsboro, all descendants of early iron masters of Pennsylvania, assisted Miss Nevin to receive.

#### **Other Guests From Distance.**

Other guests from a distance were: Mrs. George W. Longoker, of Pottstown; Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Wynkoop, of Manasquan, N. J.; Marion G. Bartol, of Springton Manor Farm; Merta H. Potts, of Wyebrooke, Pa.; Mrs. Francis L. Potts, of Bryn Mawr; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Burkholder, of Harrisburg; Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Shoemaker, of McEllittan, Pa.; William Woolver, of Philadelphia; P. F. Masterson, of West Chester; Eli M. Peazoni, of Wyebrooke, Pa.; Alfred E. Brunner, of Middletown, Conn.; W. B. Franklin and Ellen J. Franklin, of Ardmore, Pa.; Elizabeth J. Sellers, of Philadelphia; Betty S. Harrison, of Norristown, and C. Margaret Skottowe and Emily Evelyn Skottowe, both of "The Highlands," Narvon, Pa.

#### **A Basket Picnic.**

It was a basket picnic and in true picnic fashion the guests partook of lunch 'neath the whispering boughs of the great walnuts and maples which screen the rambling, picturesque, brick and stucco structure, long and narrow, with dormer windows and tiny panes.

Wonderful indeed are both exterior and interior of that Colonial country mansion. It is doubtful if there is another, excepting only Mount Vernon, to compare with it. There a part of it has stood nearly a century and three-

quarters, and the balance since near-Revolutionary times.

### **The Old Mansion.**

Set in the midst of a spacious lawn facing north, toward charming, old, historic Churchtown, on its high ridge, appears the homestead from the entrance drive. From a wide and deep colonial doorway leads a path flanked on either side by a rearing granite lion supporting an emblazoned shield, the handiwork of the artist owner. Along the older part of the house two doors with old-fashioned fluted column supporting vines whose shelter serves as porticos open as to the north onto a patch which follows the building.

### **Remarkable Statues.**

In front of the mansion, near its northwest corner, are two remarkable duplicate statues chiseled by Miss Nevin. They are alike in detail. Each is Buddha, the Eastern god. In eternal silence, seated with folded hands and downcast eyes, they hold their station only a few yards apart. One rests upon a foundation, but the other, like the Sphinx, seems half-buried in the soil. Their presence gives to the spot a touch of the charm and mystery of the Orient, in this incarnation of the spirit of the past, typical of this spot of the Occident as well.

### **Attractive Souvenirs.**

Highly appreciative of the wealth of historic lore about them, as well as the natural charms of the place, the visitors strolled about the lawn or chatted together in groups. Some could be seen admiring and exploring the unusual features of the premises, while others partook of refreshments or quenched their thirst at the strong

spring of sweet water that wells up in a big pipe. Here many filled their souvenir glasses, of dainty pattern, and inscribed "Windsor Forges, 1915," a remembrance from Miss Nevin to each of her guests.

Another attractive souvenir consisted of a handsome picture of the Windsor Forge mansion house as it appears to-day; a fine likeness of the late Hon. W. U. Hensel, and a photograph of an iron gate designed by Mr. Parke E. Edwards, of Lancaster, who graduated recently from the Pennsylvania School of Industrial Art, and some of whose designs on exhibition on Saturday proved quite interesting, because of their appropriateness to the occasion, as well as because of their merit.

#### **A Woodrow Wilson Bust.**

Indoors there is much to be seen and treasured in memory. Across the wide door-sill one steps back through two centuries. The rarest of hand-carved chairs and cabinets, with other antique furniture, tapestry and ancestral paintings, share place with curios gathered by the owner in her travels through many lands. Even here is found her handiwork, among which is a fine bust of President Woodrow Wilson, whose daughter was betrothed while Miss Nevin's guest at this historic spot.

Just as in those olden days, when house and furniture were up-to-date and luxurious in the view of the elite of Philadelphia society, the cultured and distinguished of that town, as well as men and women of national prominence in Revolutionary, post-Revolutionary and "ante-bellum" times frequented the place, so once again last Saturday, though not for the first time, by far, a score or two of distinguished persons and many

others highly educated and cultured were numbered among the guests of Miss Blanche Nevin at Windsor Forges.

### **In Memory of Honored Member.**

Occupying the large, circular, pagoda-like piazza, commanding a view of a pretty vignette of the Conestoga valley, nearing the headwaters of the river, were seated Miss Nevin, with those who helped her receive, the officers of the Historical Society and the orators of the afternoon. President George M. Steinman introduced the speakers. Though informal, the proceedings were marked with dignity throughout, and there was a reverential silence as orator and clergyman made reference to the loss by death during the year of one of the society's most notable members, Hon. W. U. Hensel, who was usually in attendance at and contributed much toward the enjoyment of these annual outings, and in whose memory an arm-chair stood draped in mourning on the piazza, where he had often been an honored guest.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. Dr. Robert McGowan, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, of Lancaster, and addresses were delivered by T. Roberts Appel, Esq., of this city, whose theme was "The Story of Windsor Forge;" Rev. George Israel Browne, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster, whose subject was "Historical Remembrances," and Mr. Henry W. Shoemaker, a member of Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh's staff, who spoke on "The Wealth of Historic Lore in County and State." Rev. Percy Skottowe, pastor of the Bangor Episcopal Church, of Church town, pronounced the benediction.

### **Inspiring Songs and Speeches.**

It all seemed like romance on a romantic spot to those whose pleasure it was to be present. Between the special numbers of the programme the welkin rang with "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," "My Country 'Tis of Thee," "My Old Kentucky Home," and "Auld Lang Syne," sung by the assemblage. Inspiring, indeed, were both speeches and songs. Pleasant it was to rest and feast on food for mind and soul while birds sang and twittered in the tree-tops and a daring swallow, whose brood was in a nest on the rafters of the porch, darted in and out intermittently and skimmed the air only a few feet above the heads of the audience as it flew back and forth attending to the wants of the fledglings.

### **Mr. Appel's Address.**

The address of T. Roberts Appel was a most eloquent and masterful discourse. With pleasing modulation of voice and a thoroughly superb rendition of his paper he held the audience spell-bound at times while he recounted the former glory of Windsor Forges as an industrial centre; the remarkable achievements and virtues of the seven generations of the descendants of David Jenkins, the Welsh emigrant of 1700, and the progenitor of ironmasters, whose lineage through Miss Nevin still holds the proprietorship of the historic spot.

Interesting, indeed, was the recital of that genealogy descending in order up to the present through John Jenkins, pioneer of the family in the Chester-Conestoga valley; Robert Jenkins, student-farmer, ironmaster and statesman; David Jenkins, ironmaster and cultured gentleman; Martha Jenkins Nevin, illustrious wife of

an illustrious husband, Rev. Dr. John Williamson Nevin, President of Franklin and Marshall College, and their distinguished daughter, Miss Blanche Nevin, the gracious hostess of the day, who by word and act showed that she enjoyed the occasion in equal degree with her guests.

Mr. Henry W. Shoemaker, a former member of the American Legation at Berlin, in his address paid a glowing tribute to Hon. W. U. Hensel, his former associate and friend, and dwelt upon the wealth of romantic and historical lore of this section of the State awaiting the inspired pen of an Irving or a Dickens whom he hoped might exist as yet unannounced among the rising generation of to-day.

#### **Rev. Browne's Talk.**

Rev. George Israel Browne dwelt upon the deep underlying bond between history and religion in an eloquent address on the theme, "Historical Remembrances.

Rev. Browne said that consciousness was the goal of evolution, and the highest consciousness included the race as one whole, and so learned to value the past in the study of history. He was less than half a man who only had interest in the present. Yes, only one-third of a fully-rounded human being. He himself was interested in the past, so he was a member of the Historical Society. He saw the high value of the present, so he was a Christian. He believed in the future, so he was a Socialist. Religion had its roots in the past; it has power in the present; it holds promise of the future.

Fluidity of consciousness is a mark of the American spirit; always to do or vote or believe exactly as our forefathers did is to be in the stagnant



state of death. History is the second of new and original experiments freely drawing inspirations from the lessons of the past and leading towards a more ample future. Openmindedness is a necessity of progress. So by the historical spirit as the motive of advance we learn of God, come to know self, and help the future of the race.

The photographs of the original decorative iron work, designed and executed by Mr. Parke Emerson Edwards, included a very artistic fire screen, which was commented upon by Mr. Christian Brinton, the prominent West Chester art critic, who served as judge in arture at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, as "vibrating with vital interest."

# Minutes of September Meeting.

---

Lancaster, Pa., Sept. 3, 1915.

The first regular monthly meeting for the winter of the Lancaster County Historical Society was held in its rooms at the A. Herr Smith Library, this evening, and was very interesting throughout. The feature of the occasion was the reading of a paper by Miss Annie Carter and written by Mrs. James D. Landis, of No. 548 North Duke street, on the subject, "A Revolutionary Patriot and His Worthy Grandson." The paper dealt with John Miller, a prominent resident of Lancaster in Colonial and Revolutionary days, and his descendants. It showed much historical research and was well received.

The following persons were elected to membership: Mrs. Mercey Fridy Miller, Mr. Walter A. Miller, Mr. Jacob B. Missemmer, Mr. Carl W. Drepard and Mr. Harry L. Stehman, Jr.

An unusually large number of persons were proposed to membership. These were Mrs. John I. Hartman, Mrs. Elizabeth Hartman Falck and Simon B. Nissley, all of Lancaster; Clarence E. Postlethwaite, of Sewickley, Pa.; Hon. John H. Landis, of Millersville; Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Miller, of Lancaster; Miss Margaret Humes, of Jersey Shore, and Sander-son Detwiler, of Columbia.

The librarian, Miss Bausman, presented the following report:

Magazines and Pamphlets—American Catholic Historical Society, records; American Philosophical Society (two numbers); Annals of Iowa; German American Annals (two numbers); Pennsylvania Magazine; Lebanon County Historical Society (Vol. VI,

No. 12); Middlemen in English Business, 1660-1760, from Yale University; "The Marshalls of Berks and Lebanon Counties"; Washington Historical Quarterly; Report of the Board of Directors of the Kansas State Historical Society; Report of the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh; Linden Hall Echo; International Conciliation; Bulletin of the New York Public Library (four numbers); Bulletin of the Grand Rapids Public Library (three numbers); Bulletin of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh (two numbers).

Bound Volumes—History of the Church of the Brethren of Eastern Pennsylvania, 1708-1915 (by purchase); Illinois Historical Collections, Vol. X, from the Illinois State Historical Library; Wisconsin Historical Society Proceedings; Pennsylvania at Gettysburg three volumes (revised edition); Report of the Pennsylvania State College for 1911-12; Report of the Pennsylvania State College for 1912-13; Report of the Department of Forestry, 1912-13; Report of the Department of Fisheries, 1913-14; Report of the State Treasurer; Report of the Public Service Commission, 1913-14; Report of the Commissioner of Labor and Industry; Topographic and Geologic Survey of Pennsylvania, report No. 7 and maps—all from the State Library.

Special Donations—Resources and Industries of the City of Lancaster, 1887, from F. R. Diffenderffer; Notions of the Americans, series of letters published in 1828; collection of simplified spelling literature; several old newspapers, from Dr. R. K. Buehrle; complete file of "The Morning News," from Horace E. Kennedy; complete set of the Washington Historical Quarterly; notice of the Democratic mass

meeting held at Lancaster, October 8, 1856, from Hiram Steinmetz; programme of the Fifth Annual Landis Family Reunion, held at Conestoga Park, Lancaster, August 21, 1915, from Mr. D. B. Landis.

The committee appointed to prepare for the erection of a marker and holding exercises to mark the beginning of the Courts of Justice in Lancaster County, presented the following report:

To the President and the Members of  
the Lancaster County Historical  
Society:

The undersigned, committee being appointed by your Honorable body, to take up the subject of erecting a suitable marker and holding proper exercises, to commemorate the beginning of the Courts of Justice, in Lancaster County, which were first held at Postlethwaites, in Conestoga Township, in the year 1729, beg to report:—

1. That they met at the office of the Chairman, on the 16th day of June, 1915, to discuss the feasibility of holding such exercises and of erecting such a marker during the coming Autumn; and communicated with a large number of persons in the Townships of Conestoga, Pequea, Martic and Manor, upon the subject, by which means they learned that a great deal of enthusiasm for the holding of such event was felt in all sections. The newspapers also made public mention of the project, and from all sections of the County came a hearty approval. The owner of the premises, Mr. George Fehl, also gladly welcomes the project. The Judges of our Courts, the Magistrates and the County Government in general, favor it.

2. Your committee, after the first meeting, decided to hold another meeting at the residence of George Fehl

where they met a large number of citizens from the surrounding neighborhood, on the 3d day of July, 1915. At this meeting the committee created from its own membership, and from a large number of added persons, the following sub-committees:—on programme, on boulder, on arrangements for the meeting, on descendants of the original settlers, etc. These sub-committees consist of from ten to twenty members each, and all of them have been more or less actively engaged upon the duties assigned to them.

3. Various sub-committees, among other things, have been deliberating upon a suitable citizen of Conestoga Township, as Chairman of the meeting—and another citizen of the same Township, to deliver one of the address, namely:—an address on the general historical development of that community from the time of the pioneers—have been making experiments on trappe rock and limestone boulders, in the community—have been interesting the owners of collections of Indian relics to exhibit them—have been taking steps to engage the home Township Cornet Band to furnish music—have been arranging to secure boards and materials for speakers' stand and seats for women—have been providing for the care of automobiles and carriages, etc.—have been looking for arrangements for a vender of lunch, etc.—have been arranging for the reception of visitors—have been communicating with persons of note, at home and in foreign sections, who descended from ancient Conestoga, so as to send them invitations—have been taking up the matter of invitations generally—have been seeking material for a proper programme, both literary and musical—and have been attending to the details of the proposed event in general.

These committees have been in correspondence with their Chairmen and have met at different times. The Chairmen of the sub-committees are as follows:—Programme Committee, H. Frank Eshleman, Esq., and Dr. F. R. Diffenderffer—on boulder, D. F. Magee, Esq.—on descendants of the pioneers, A. K. Hostetter—on meeting and arrangements, M. C. Eshleman and Harry Fehl.

4. Subsequently, the committee on boulder, together with others, made a trip and investigated the stones of the community, and finally came to the conclusion, that the most available boulder would be a limestone, taken from the quarries of Abraham Dambach about one-quarter of a mile distant from the Fehl premises. After this was decided upon, Mr. Dambach and Mr. Edward Ruth met several of the citizens, and blasted out a number of large stones, ranging from five to fifteen tons in size, ready for the committee's inspection and selection, so that one of the rocks may be decided upon and be dressed somewhat into shape preparatory to conveying the same to the site of old Postlethwaite, and erecting it there. This will be attended to as soon as the Society acts upon this report.

5. Your committee reports that a very good encouragement is given by the entire neighborhood, towards the holding of the event, and the desire for the same is universal. The President Judge has given his consent to give the leading paper or address for the occasion; and other materials for the one-half day programme, are already in advanced preparedness. Your committee received suggestions from the citizens who met them upon the date for holding the proposed event, and they believe that either Friday, October 1st, or Friday, October 8th, 1915.

would be the most suitable. Your committee have had in mind fixing a day that would not conflict with the County Fair, nor with the holding of Courts, nor with the extremely busy times of the farmers. Since the Fair will continue until Saturday, October 2d, it is thought, our option is narrowed down to Friday, October 8th, in the afternoon, as the proper time for the event.

A great deal of material, connected with primitive days in and around "Old Conestoga" and the adjoining neighborhood, on all sides, has been brought to light, and very interesting exercises celebrating the beginnings of the Courts of Justice, and the initial operations of our county's government, immediately after its severance from Chester county, can undoubtedly be had with favorable weather. A citizen immediately adjoining Postlethwaite, has offered his large barn for the exercises, in case the weather be inclement.

6. Your committee, therefore, report in favor of the holding of such celebration, at George Fehl's residence in Conestoga, and the unveiling of a suitable boulder, beginning at 1 o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, October 8th, 1915; and beg that they be given power and authority to proceed to conduct the same.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. FRANK ESHLEMAN,  
D. F. MAGEE,  
A. K. HOSTETTER,  
F. R. DIFFENDERFFER,

Committee.

The report was accepted with thanks and the committee continued. Adjourned.











